

Congress of the United States

Washington, DC 20510

April 27, 2022

Honorable Rosa L. DeLauro, Chair
Committee on Appropriations
H-307, The Capitol
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Honorable Kay Granger, Ranking Member
Committee on Appropriations
1016 Longworth House Office Building
U.S. House of Representatives
Washington, D.C. 20515

Dear Chair DeLauro and Ranking Member Granger:

I am requesting funding for Boys & Girls Clubs of America's Layers of Protection – Abuse Prevention in fiscal year 2023. The entity to receive funding for this project is Boys and Girls Clubs of America, located at 1275 Peachtree St. NE, Atlanta, GA 30309.

When school is out, Boys & Girls Clubs (BGCA) nationwide open their doors, providing the support that millions of young people need to learn and grow into productive, caring, responsible citizens. Yet, each day, there are 11.3 million kids who leave school unsupervised, unguided, and potentially unsafe (43 million during the summer). BGCA is pursuing a project to build capacity and support services by dedicated Child Safety & Quality Assurance (CSQA) professionals, who provide program quality and child abuse prevention consultation, live-facilitated training, and prevention resources to local leaders and frontline staff.

Building this capacity for BGCA's more than 4,900 affiliated Clubs has a huge footprint, with resources needed to provide additional enhanced services. As part of this project BGCA aims to enhance these static resources to create a suite of dynamic trauma-informed abuse prevention resources for parents and caregivers of young people. Resources will be public-facing, accessible, and disseminated to other youth serving organizations and safety partners.

This project is a good use of taxpayer dollars because it would allow BCGA to expand a broader awareness of safety practices and practical tips, build thought leadership around prevention resources, and further support kids, families and local strengths to shape a safer community for all young people.

I certify that neither I nor my immediate family has any financial interest in this project.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Nikema Williams", with a stylized flourish at the end.

Nikema Williams
Member of Congress